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# CONGRESS HEIGHTS RECREATION CENTER

CFA CONCEPT SUBMISSION PACKAGE 21 JULY 2022

### PROJECT OVERVIEW & PROGRAM

This project is a replacement of the existing small community building and park amenities at Congress Heights Park located in Ward 8 Washington, DC. The project includes a new 26,905 SF recreation center with new outdoor site amenities and trails. The replacement facilities will provide improved recreation and community amenities for this neighborhood location in Ward 8. The programmatic focus of this multi-generational facility is both the youth activities and activities for families to recreate and socialize together. MLK Jr. Elementary School has been using the existing playground areas. It is the intent that access to the new playground areas will continue for the students at the elementary school.

Outdoor site program amenities include two playground areas for children 2-5 years old and children 5-12 years old, an outdoor court, a multi-purpose field for pee-wee football and U-11/U-12 soccer, a community garden, picnic shelters, and a fitness trail.

Recreation center program elements include a gymnasium, aquatic center, fitness room, multipurpose room, E-Gaming Center, flex program space, incubator kitchen, community store, admin areas, locker rooms, and support spaces.

The project will be designed for LEED Silver Certification.

### **EXISTING SITE DESCRIPTION**

The existing park site is land bound on all four sides with no direct access to any main street, Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School on the west, Rehoboth Baptist Church on the north, apartment building on the east and single- family residential development on the south.

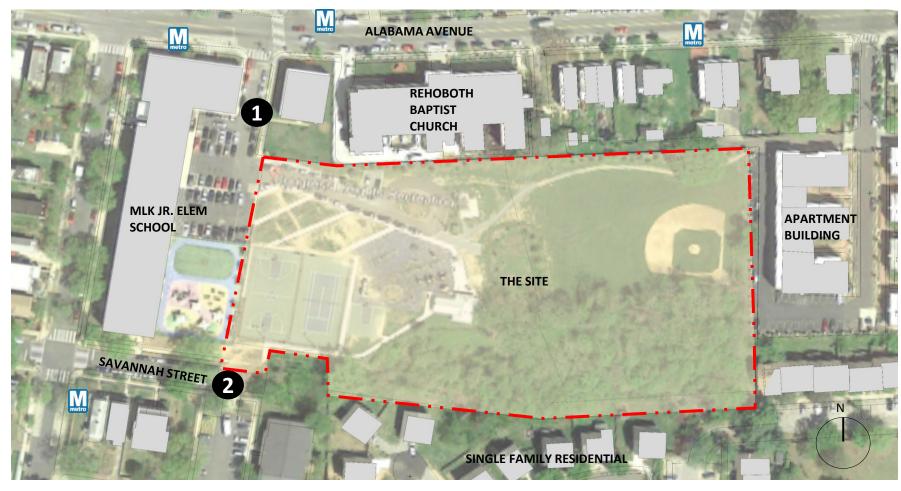


**AERIAL VIEW** 



5 MINUTE WALK RADIUS

#### **EXISTING PARK**



1 VEHICULAR/PEDESTRIAN ACCESS FROM ALABAMA AVE.

2 PEDESTRIAN ACCESS FROM SAVANNAH STREET

The "front" entry is via an alley that utilizes DCPS land (the parking lot and drive aisles of the Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School) to provide both vehicular and pedestrian access the site and current building from Alabama Avenue. Savannah Street ends at the park edge and access is via a deteriorating stairway from the SW corner of the site. Both the NE and SE corners have informal pedestrian access created over time by the residents.

The total area of the park site is approximately 4.4 acres. Two thirds of the existing park is the developed area which include tennis and basketball courts, parking, small community building playground areas, community garden and youth baseball field. The natural area of the park stretches along the south. It occupies about one third of the park site. There is also a stream that runs through this area. DOEE just completed the stream restoration that removed debris and overgrown weed vegetation at the stream edge. Three specimen trees in the park are designated to remain.

The key challenges in the project are the following:

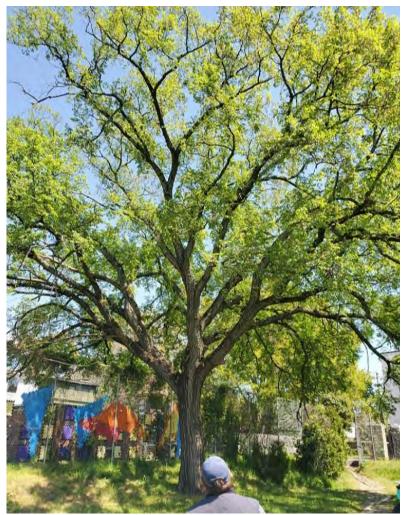
- Improve access both vehicular and pedestrian to the park
- Visibility of the new recreation center from both Alabama Avenue and Savannah Street
- Integration of the natural park edge to the park design layout
- Safe student access from MLK Jr. Elementary School to the park
- Maintaining the five specimen trees in the park



1 VEHICULAR/PEDESTRIAN ENTRY FROM ALABAMA AVENUE



2 PEDESTRIAN ENTRY FROM SAVANNAH STREET

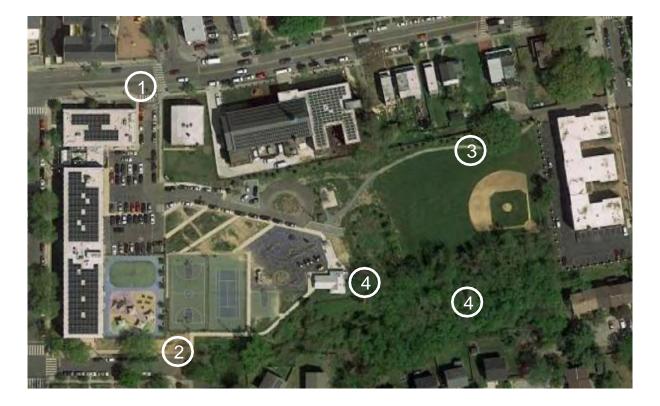


3 HERITAGE TREE LOCATED NORTH OF BASEBALL FIELD





4 DOEE STORMWATER RETROFIT PROJECT AT THE NATURAL AREA OF THE PARK

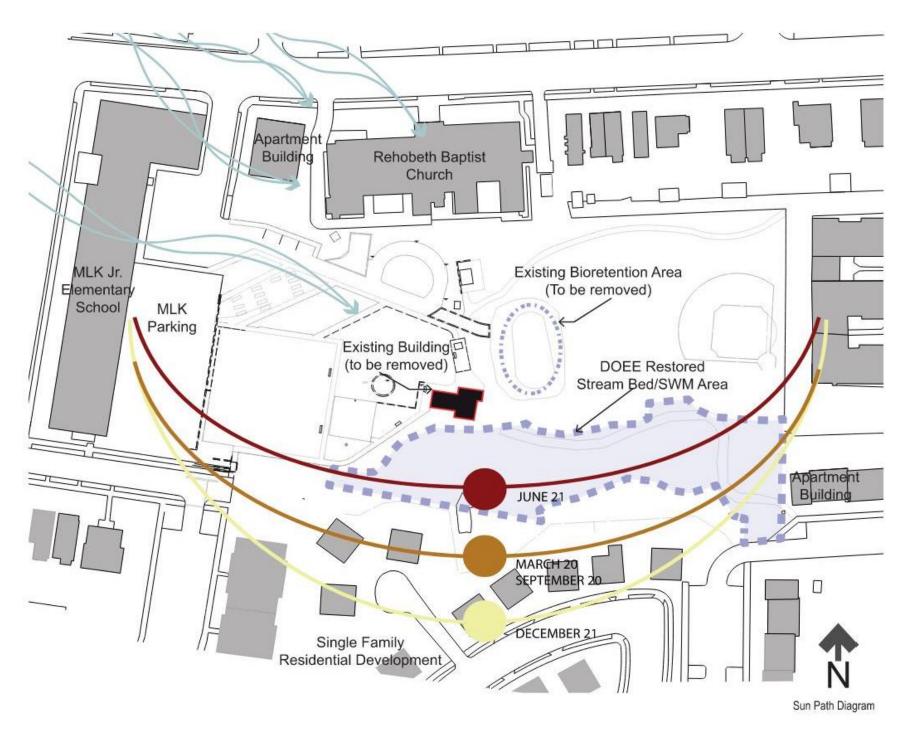




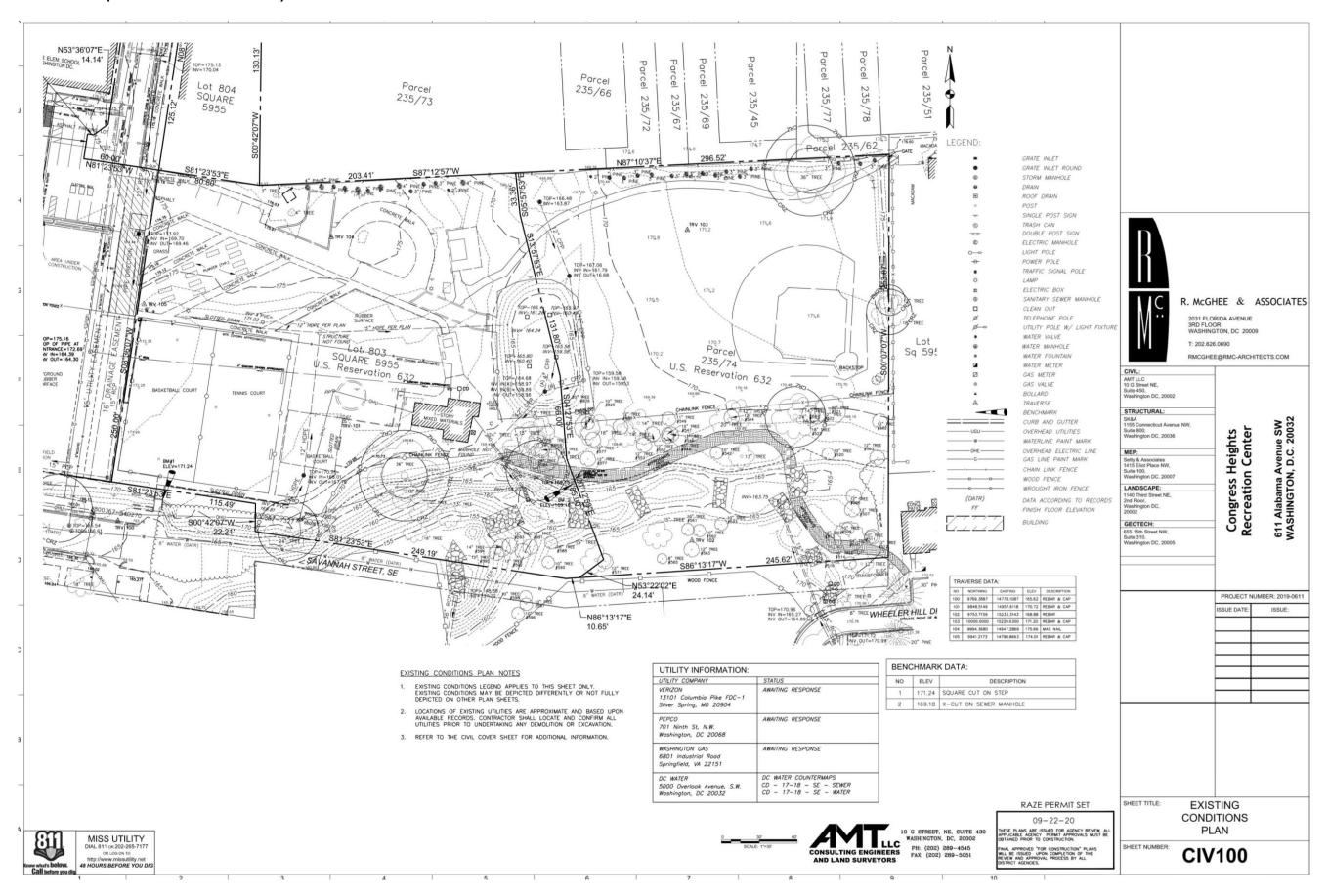
# SITE ANALYSIS (ENVIRONMENTAL)







## SITE ANALYSIS (ENVIRONMENTAL)



### SITE DESIGN CONCEPT

The unique feature of the park is the natural edge located at the south of the property. The DOEE restoration project of the stream left this area a little bare. But when this area gets reforested and matures, this enclave has the potential to be a neighborhood refuge from urban life and a naturalist educational tool for the young.

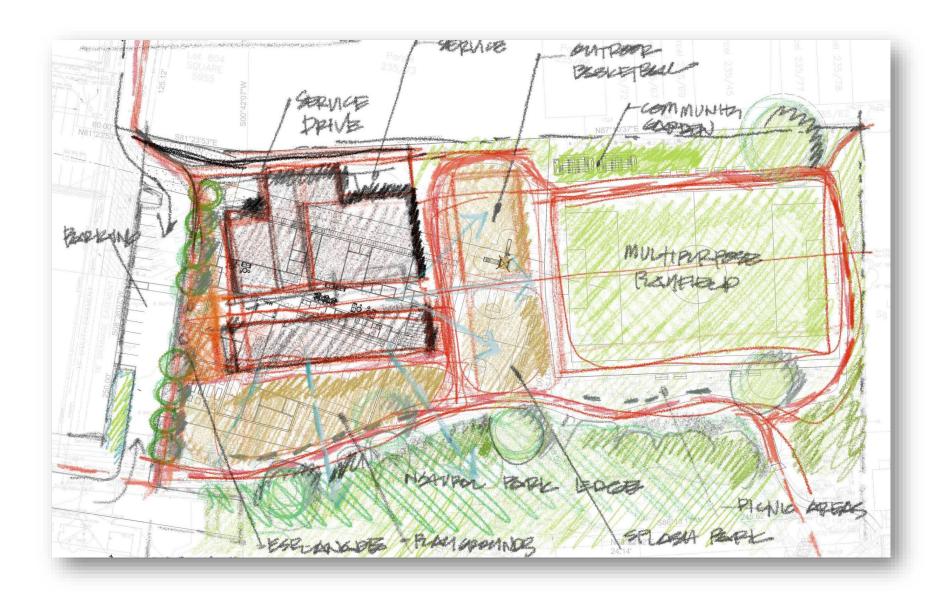
A new drive is proposed to connect vehicular and pedestrian access from Alabama Avenue and Savannah Street. This new drive and pedestrian esplanade on the west side of the property will provide a new front face of the recreation building/park and enhances its presence. Parking of 16 spaces will be provided.

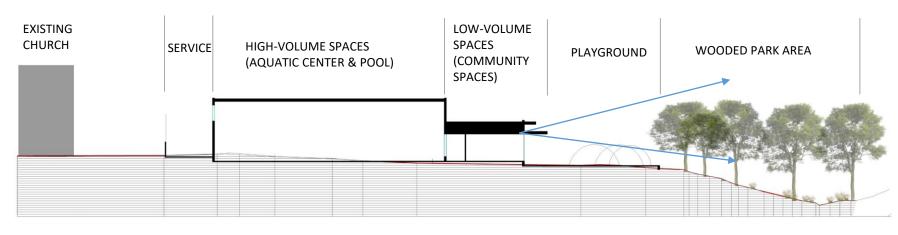
The new recreation center is located on the northwest corner of the park with its main entry located along the esplanade. The building service and emergency field access are consolidated and adjacent to the church service drive. Community spaces in the building will have visual connectivity to the playground areas and the natural edge of the park

The playgrounds are located south of the building with views of the natural edge of the park. The multi-purpose playfield replaces the existing youth baseball field.

The overall park layout preserves the existing five specimen trees on the site. The reforestation needed for the stream area will most likely be a mix of deciduous/evergreen native canopy trees to ensure a visual buffer between the park activities and the residential neighborhood to the south.

Stormwater management will consist of the green roof at designated building roof areas, multiple bioretention systems, and pervious surface areas.





**BUILDING/SITE CROSS SECTION** 

## SITE DEVELOPMENT COMPARISON



**UPDATED SITE PLAN** 

1 STORY RECREATION BLDG (26,905 SF)

#### **LEGEND**

- 1 RECREATION BUILDING
- 2 PARKING (ORIGINAL DESIGN W/ 16 SPACES & UPDATED DESIGN W/ 16 SPACES )
- 3 OUTDOOR COURT
- 4 PLAYGROUND
- 5 MULTIPURPOSE FIELD (45 YDS X 75 YDS PLAY AREA)
- 6 FITNESS TRAIL
- 7 COMMUNITY GARDEN/PICNIC PAVILION
- 8 SOUTHEAST ACCESS & BRIDGE
- 9 NORTHEAST ACCESS
- 10 SPLASH PAD
- 11 MLK STUDENT PATH OF TRAVEL



JULY 16, 2020 CFA APPROVED SITE PLAN

1- STORY RECREATION BLDG (24,000 SF)

## **JULY 16, 2020 CFA APPROVED SITE PLAN**



## **UPDATED SITE PLAN**









### **BUILDING DESIGN CONCEPT**

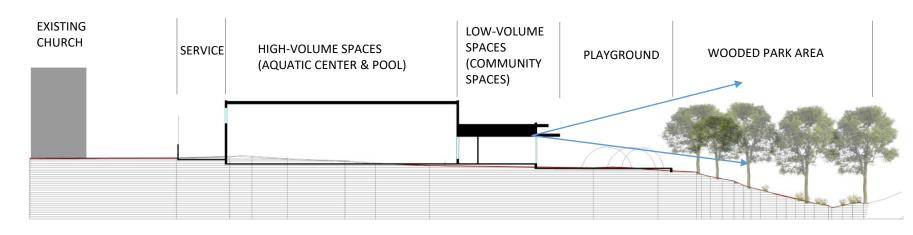
#### **ORGANIZATION**

The building is designed as a multigenerational recreational and community facility. The central circulation spine organizes the building amenities and provides good visual engagement of the activities. Along the north of the circulation spine are the indoor aquatic center, gymnasium, locker rooms, and support spaces. To the south of the circulation spine are the community store, incubator kitchen, multipurpose room, egaming center, program flex room, and fitness room. The community spaces are situated to take advantage of the views of the playground areas and natural wooded area of the park.

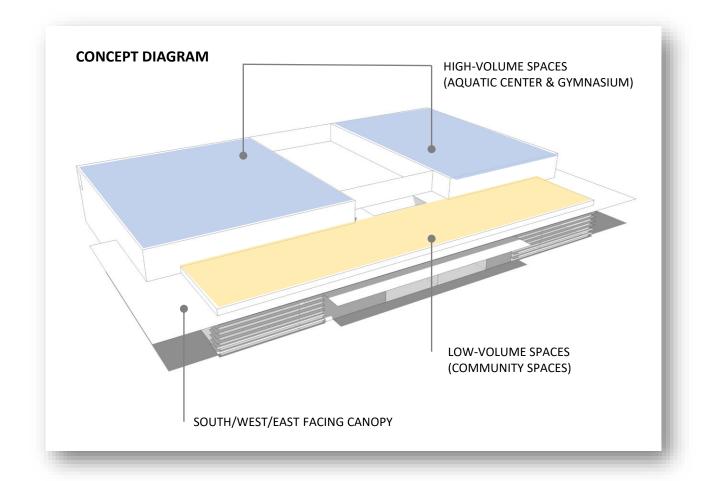
#### **EXTERIOR MASSING**

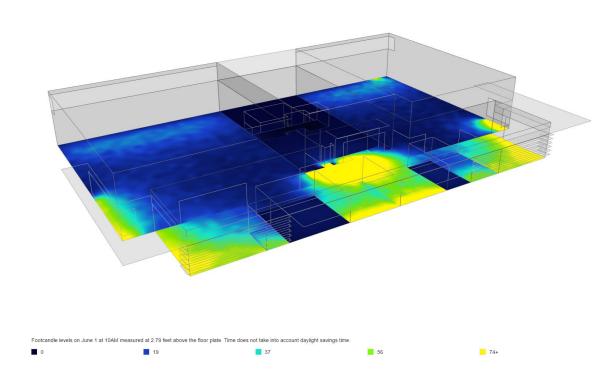
High-volume spaces are located on the north with low-volume/community spaces on the south. Solar shading devices such as the large canopies/overhangs and horizontal window fins provide a strong architectural feature of the building design.

The exterior building material palette includes metal wall cladding, brick/veneer and low-e glazing. North facing translucent clerestory windows are located indoor aquatic center and the gymnasium. Canopies will be composite aluminum finish. Roofing includes adhered membrane roofing and vegetative roof system in selected areas.



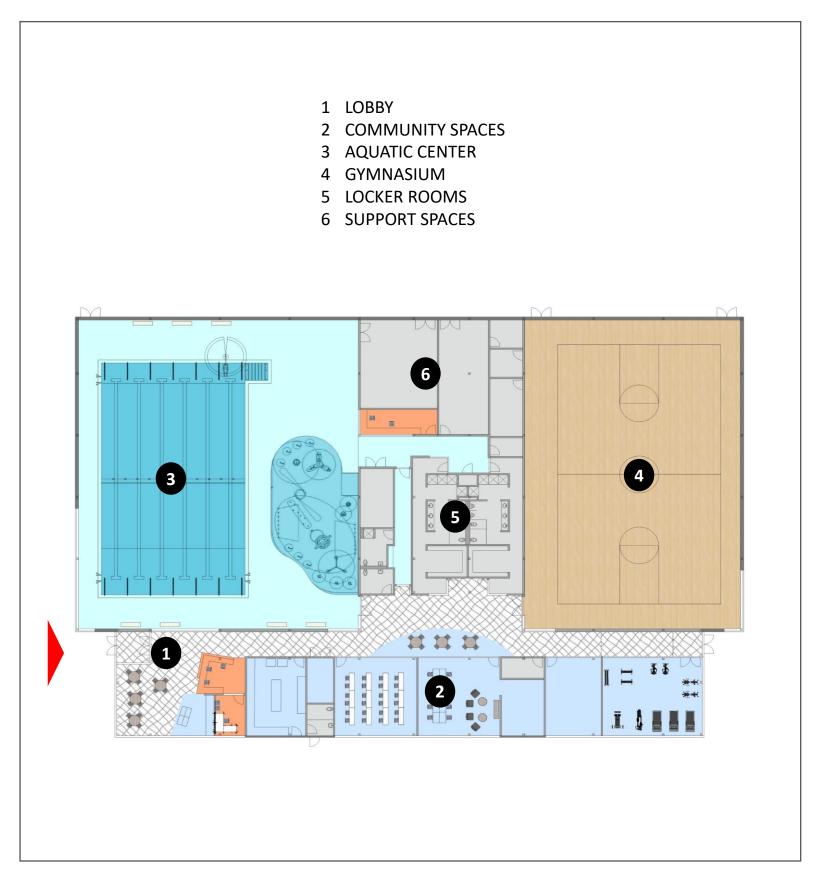
**BUILDING/SITE CROSS SECTION** 





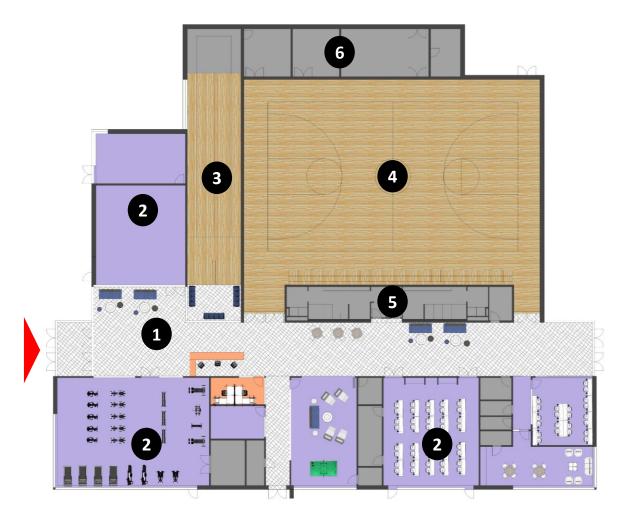
#### PRELIM DAYLIGHT STUDY

## **CONCEPTUAL PLAN COMPARISON**



**UPDATED FLOOR PLAN** AREA= 26,905 GSF

- 1 LOBBY
- **2 COMMUNITY SPACES**
- 3 BOWLING ALLEY
- 4 GYMNASIUM
- 5 LOCKER ROOMS
- **6 SUPPORT SPACES**



**JULY 20, 2020 FLOOR PLAN** 

AREA= 24,000 GSF

# **CONCEPTUAL EXTERIOR MASSING COMPARISON**





**UPDATED EXTERIOR MASSING** 





**JULY 16, 2020 EXTERIOR MASSING** 

## **UPDATED FLOOR PLAN**

- 1 LOBBY
- 2 CONTROL DESK
- **3 COMMUNITY STORE**
- **INCUBATOR KITCHEN**
- 5 MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
- **E-GAMING CENTER**
- PROGRAM FLEX ROOM
- **8 FITNESS CENTER**
- INDOOR AQUATIC CENTER
- 10 GYMNASIUM
- 11 M. LOCKER ROOM/TOILETS/SHOWERS
- 12 W. LOCKER ROOM/ TOILETS/SHOWERS
- 13 UNIVERSAL LOCKER ROOM
- 14 UNIVERSAL TOILET
- **15 SAFETY CENTER**
- **16 CIRCULATION SPINE**
- 17 POOL FILTER ROOM
- 18 POOL STORAGE
- 19 GYM STORAGE
- 20 MECHANICAL
- 21 ELECTRICAL
- 22 DATA/IT
- 23 STORAGE
- 24 JANITOR CLOSET







# 1 LOBBY VIEW

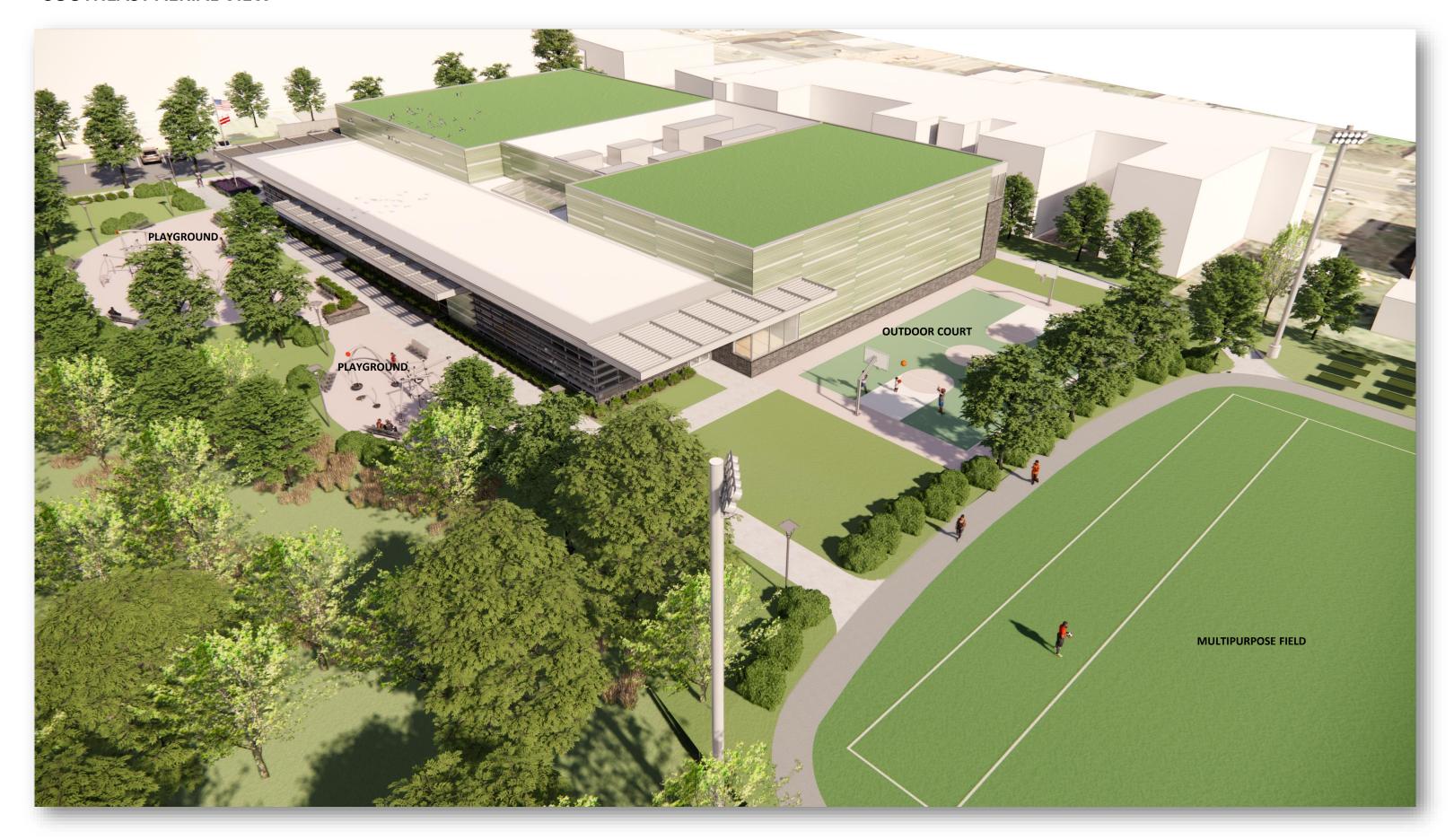


**2 CIRCULATION SPINE** 

## **SOUTHWEST AERIAL VIEW**



# **SOUTHEAST AERIAL VIEW**



## **EXTERIOR MATERIAL PALETTE OPTIONS**

PANELS OF VARYING SIZES WITH AN ACCENT COLOR TO CREATE TEXTURE AND VISUAL INTEREST



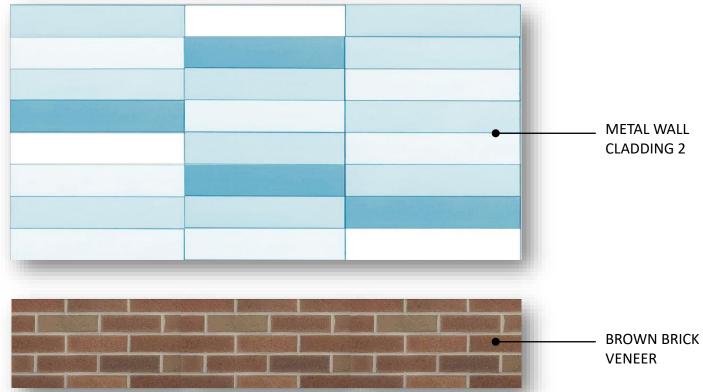




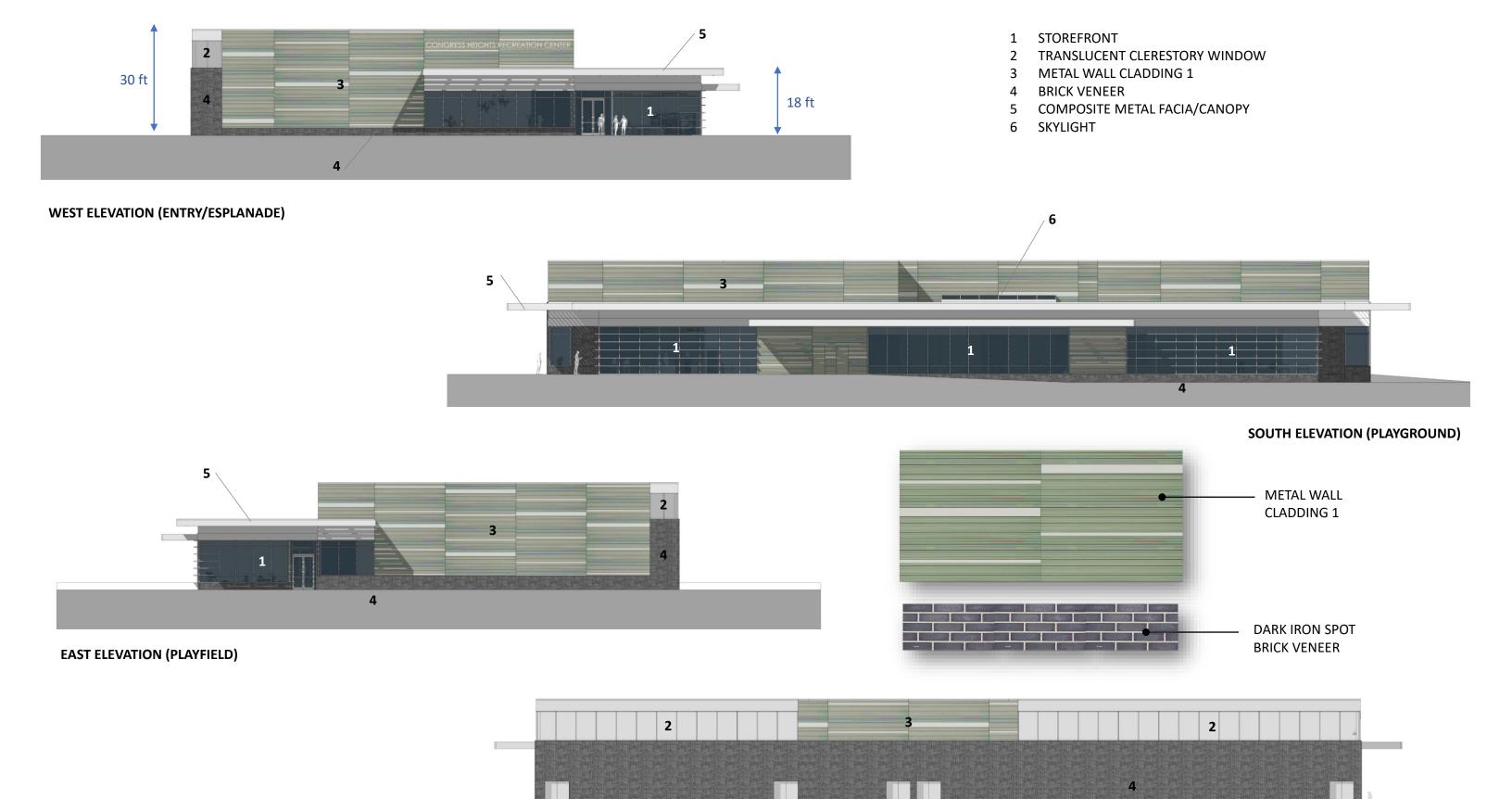








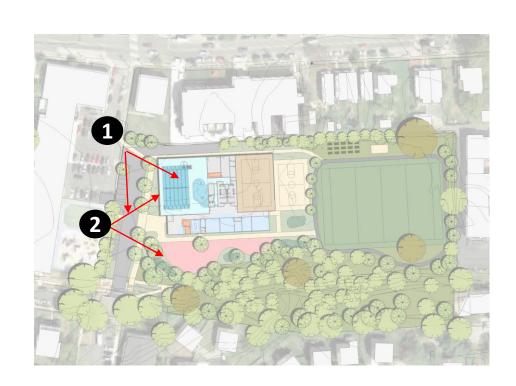
**OPTION 2** 



**NORTH ELEVATION (SERVICE)** 



1 NORTHWEST VIEW (FROM ALABAMA AVE. APPROACH)

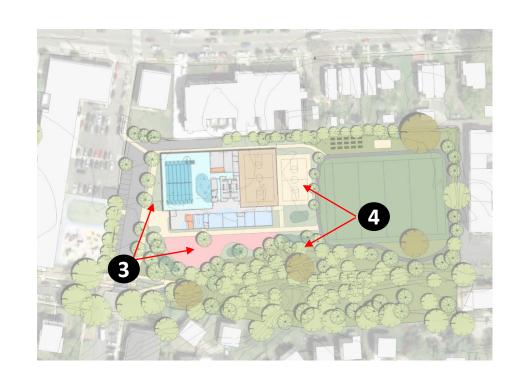


CONGRESS HEIGHTS RECREATION CENTER

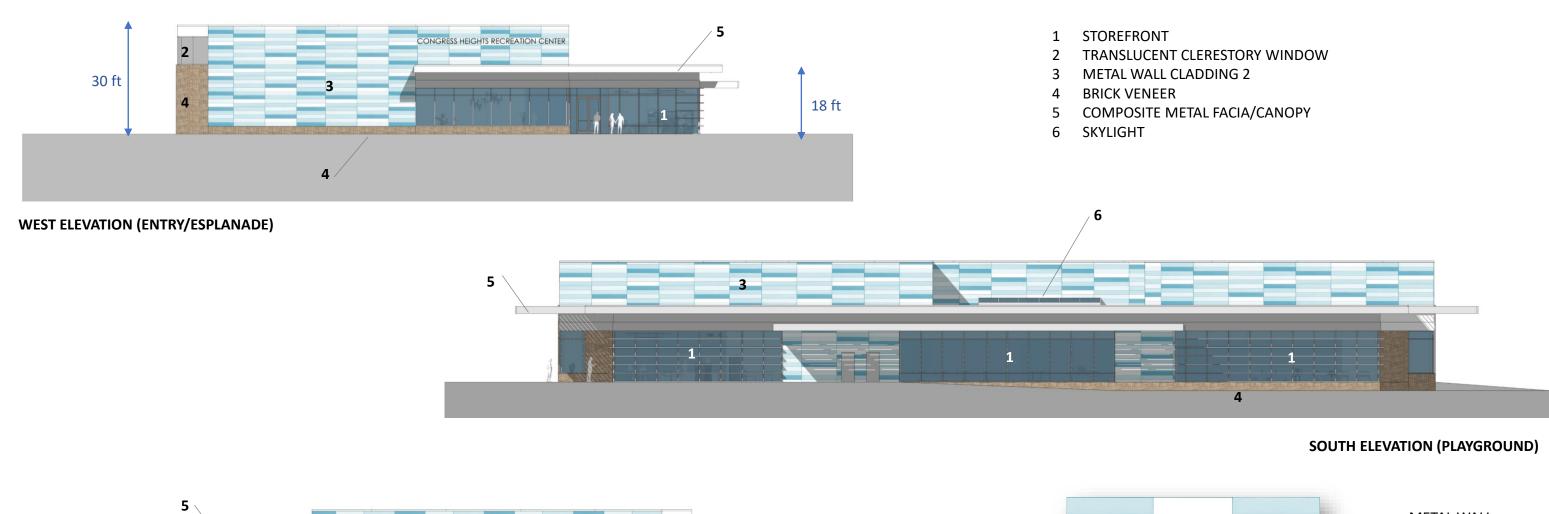
2 WEST VIEW (BUILDING ENTRY)

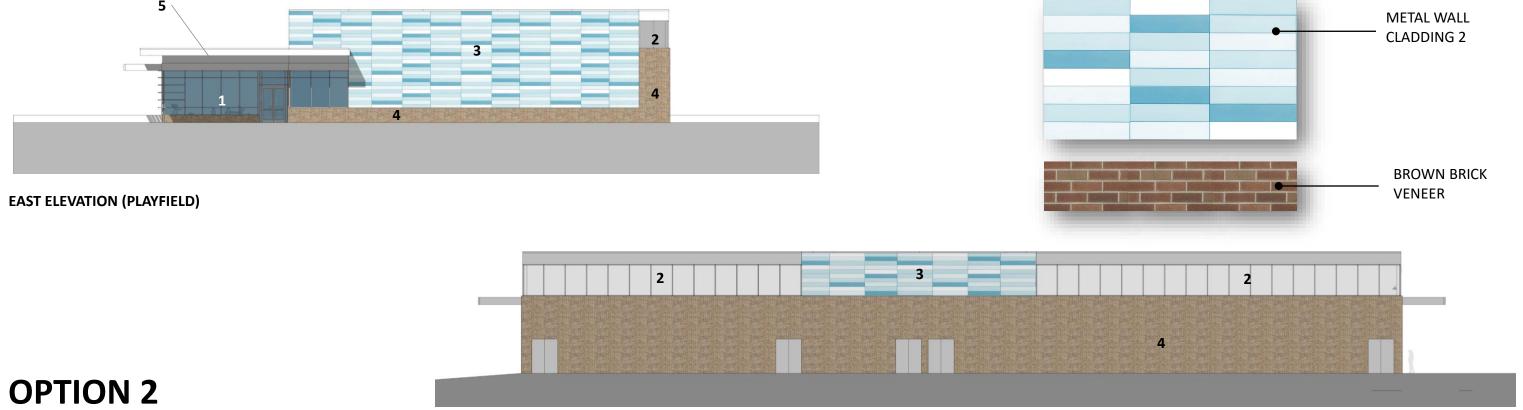


**3 SOUTHWEST VIEW (FROM SAVANNAH AVE. APPROACH)** 



4 EAST VIEW (FROM THE MULTIPURPOSE FIELD)

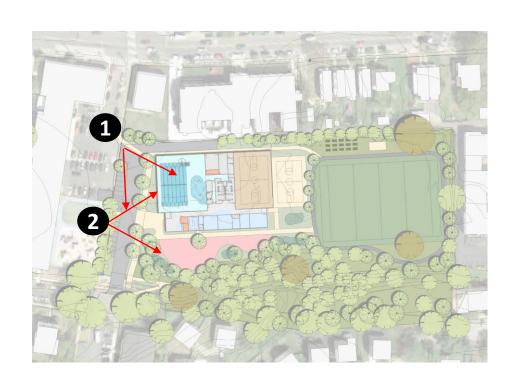




**NORTH ELEVATION (SERVICE)** 



1 NORTHWEST VIEW (FROM ALABAMA AVE. APPROACH)

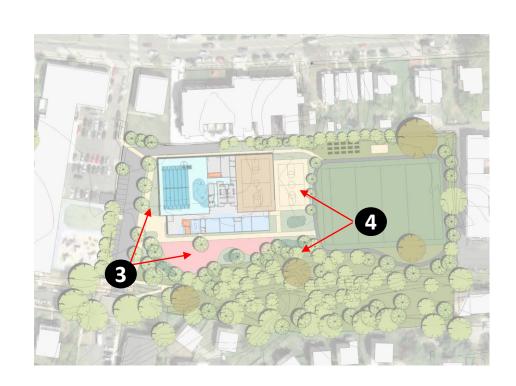


CONGRESS HEIGHTS RECREATION CENTER

2 WEST VIEW (BUILDING ENTRY)



**3 SOUTHWEST VIEW (FROM SAVANNAH AVE. APPROACH)** 



4 EAST VIEW (FROM THE MULTIPURPOSE FIELD)



OPTION 1



**OPTION 2**